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and **Soil Water Conservation**

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We Salute
Our
Volunteers!



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Cover: Earth Team
Volunteers Darlene Mudrick
and Dan Yeatts study soils
map as part of developing an
erosion control demonstra-
tion project in Morgantown,
W. Va. (Photo by Ed Wright.)

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Comments from the SCS Chief:

A Salute to the Earth Team

THE SOIL CONSERVATION SERVICE and America's soil and water conser-
vation districts salute the more than 8,200 Earth Team volunteers. These
public-spirited folks made 1988 a banner year for the Team, which con-
tributed more than 250,000 volunteer hours to conservation efforts.

The helping hands of volunteers are making a real difference.
Volunteers are working directly with private landowners, conservation
districts, and SCS. Especially critical is their assistance in helping farm-
ers understand and meet the conservation provisions of the Food
Security Act of 1985. Jobs vary greatly and include tasks in engineering,
computers, and public relations. We couldn't do the work without them.

The contributions volunteers make are endless. Just as important to
us as their time, talent, and ideas are their volunteer spirit and conserva-
tion ethic. America takes pride in volunteers for conservation!



Volunteers at Work

Earth Team Helping to Meet FSA Deadlines

EARTH TEAM volunteers are proving to be in the right place at the right time as the Soil Conservation Service works to help landowners meet the conservation planning and application deadlines of the Food Security Act of 1985 (FSA).

Under the conservation compliance provision of the FSA, in order for landowners to stay eligible for U.S. Department of Agriculture program benefits, conservation plans for all highly erodible cropland must be prepared by the end of 1989, and the plans must be implemented by the end of 1994. Earth Team volunteers are providing valuable assistance in meeting the FSA deadlines.

Following are descriptions of ways that Earth Team volunteers helped with the FSA workload during 1988.

Illinois

"We just couldn't have kept up with the FSA workload without our volunteers," said Dave Burgdorf, SCS district conservationist in the Knox County Conservation District. "They were a tremendous help in getting things done."

Eighteen Earth Team volunteers worked 876 hours to complete HEL determinations on more than 308,000 acres. Volunteers also conducted 86 group conservation planning meetings. By the end of 1988, conservation planning was completed for 80 percent of the highly erodible land in the county.

Indiana

In Cass County, three Earth Team volunteers worked 465 hours conducting 13 FSA group information meetings and planning sessions,

making HEL determinations, doing surveying for the design and layout of conservation practices, performing construction checks, collecting design information, and plotting surveys. One of the volunteers, Barbara Snowden, said that money is not her motivation to work. "I love being outside," she said. "If I look at the beauty, at the self-satisfaction, and pride I have in what I do, then I'm paid."

Kansas

Across the State, Earth Team volunteers contributed 4,300 hours of assistance, much of that spent on FSA related activities. Volunteers did map work, prepared landowner case files, checked Conservation Reserve Program cover crops, calibrated grass drills, and helped with information and education activities. SCS State Conservationist James Habiger said that he expects that volunteers will play an even greater role in helping landowners implement their conservation compliance plans.

Massachusetts

In the Berkshire County Conservation District, four Earth Team volunteers working 437 hours helped SCS to meet its goals for making HEL determinations and completing conservation planning on those acres. Volunteers' work included gathering soils information, taking slope and length of slope measurements, and assembling and mailing final HEL determinations to landowners. "It would have been impossible for us to accomplish what we did this past season without the added support of our volunteers," said Mark Grennan, SCS district conservationist.



“Troy came in and took over the FSA processing,” said Charles Studer, SCS district conservationist. “He assisted in making HEL determinations and developing conservation plans.”

Michigan

Six Earth Team volunteers worked 2,099 hours in the Macomb County Soil and Water Conservation District making HEL determinations, doing survey and design work, and preparing case files for landowners affected by the FSA conservation provisions. Volunteers also worked on conservation information and education activities.

New York

The Earth Team Volunteer Program is providing a way for mental health patients in Rensselaer County to gain vocational skills and reap the therapeutic benefits of doing worthwhile work. The SCS field office in Troy has received 700 hours in assistance from these volunteers who do a variety of tasks including helping to prepare FSA conservation plans and township resource inventories. They also enter data into a computer and help with fieldwork. So far, six patients have joined the Earth Team as part of their rehabilitation.

North Carolina

At the Montgomery County Soil and Water Conservation District, 14 Earth Team volunteers were specifically recruited to assist with FSA work. Last year, they worked 1,271 hours speaking at various club and group meetings across the district to tell landowners about the conservation provisions of the FSA. Volunteers also assisted in making HEL determinations and developing conservation plans.

“Volunteers are the extended arm of SCS in this county,” said Paul Britt, soil conservation technician. “They are helping to get our message out to the community.”

North Dakota

Armin Schwengel, retired wildlife biologist from the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, volunteered almost 40 hours per week for the SCS field office in Port Washington on developing and restoring wetlands on Conservation Reserve Program acres. He identifies possible locations, contacts landowners, and works with them through the entire process of construction and followup. He even builds wood duck nesting boxes to place in the new or restored wetlands.

Ohio

In the Athens Soil and Water Conservation District, 11 Earth Team volunteers worked a total of 430 hours on FSA-related activities. They were recruited specifically to make HEL determinations, gather field data for conservation planning, and prepare public service announcements. Because of this work, the SCS staff had 100 percent of its FSA conservation planning completed before Oct. 1, 1988. “We would probably still be making determinations if it weren’t for our volunteers,” said Richard Pitorak, SCS district conservationist.

Oregon

A two-line newspaper ad netted the Morrow County Soil and Water Conservation District more than 1,500 hours of help from Earth Team volunteers. “Thanks to our volunteers, we have been able to handle one of the biggest conservation compliance and Conservation Reserve Program workloads in the State,” said SCS District Conservationist Sharon Schneider.

Volunteers have organized public information meetings, prepared maps and other case file information, entered computer data, helped with fieldwork, and provided clerical assistance.

Texas

Retiree Troy Berry, who had worked as an SCS district conservationist and a Resource Conservation and Development Area coordinator, is an Earth Team volunteer in Goldthwaite. Berry worked more than 1,456 hours in fiscal year 1988 in the Mills Soil and Water Conservation District. “Troy came in and took over the FSA processing,” said Charles Studer, SCS district conservationist. “He assisted in making HEL determinations and developing conservation plans.

“Working with Troy has put another professional in the office,” Studer said. “He’s a valuable asset.”

West Virginia

Nine Earth Team volunteers at the Monongahela Soil Conservation District provided 1,083 hours of assistance to SCS in survey, design, and installation of more than 100 permanent engineering conservation practices, such as farm ponds, spring developments, waterways, and tile drainage systems. Volunteers also updated SCS manuals and technical guides necessary for the continuation of FSA work.

“Volunteers are a total part of our program in this multi-county district,” said Ed Wright, SCS district conservationist. “I don’t see how we could get along without them.”

1988 Conservation Highlights

Summary of Activities of the Soil Conservation Service for Fiscal Year 1988

THE SOIL Conservation Service is the agency of the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) that provides technical assistance in planning and applying conservation practices and systems to reduce soil erosion, protect and conserve water, and reduce upstream flood damage. This past fiscal year, SCS provided assistance to 2,136,396 land users and units of government, 891,431 of whom applied at least one conservation practice. This resulted in 61.8 million acres of land receiving some form of conservation treatment.

Most SCS assistance is provided to the farmers and ranchers who are cooperators with the Nation's nearly 3,000 local soil and water conservation districts. More than a quarter of a million landowners in fiscal year 1988 became new district cooperators, triple the number from the previous year. SCS provides cooperators

with technical assistance in developing conservation plans for their land and in implementing the conservation practices in their plans.

Following are highlights of SCS activities during fiscal year 1988.

Food Security Act of 1985

The Food Security Act of 1985 (FSA) contained several provisions to reduce soil erosion on highly erodible land and to protect wetlands. Implementing these provisions, including the task of determining all areas of highly erodible land and wetlands, has been the major focus of SCS field office staffs. To remain eligible for USDA program benefits, the conservation compliance provision of the FSA requires that anyone who farms highly erodible cropland must have a conservation plan approved by the end of 1989 and imple-

mented by the end of 1994. As of the end of 1988, SCS field office personnel had helped develop approved conservation plans for 89.2 million acres of highly erodible cropland—or 65 percent of the more than 136 million acres expected to need plans by the end of 1989. Plans have been implemented on 25.2 million acres, or 18 percent of the affected land.

Under another provision of the FSA, the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP), SCS has provided technical assistance to nearly 270,000 landowners who have agreed to plant 28.1 million acres of highly erodible cropland to grass, trees, or wildlife cover and to maintain the new plant cover for at least 10 years. More than 29,000 acres of the CRP land consists of filter strips designed to improve water quality.

During 1988, the third year of the program, there were two signups when landown-

ers could submit bids to enter land into the program. SCS field office staffs determine the eligibility of the land submitted in the bids and help the landowners develop conservation plans for the land accepted. Participating landowners receive cost-sharing assistance in establishing the new cover and annual payments (averaging about \$48 per acre, nationally) from USDA's Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service (ASCS), which administers CRP. Signups will be held through 1990 in an effort to reach the goal of retiring 40-45 million acres of highly erodible cropland.

Information Resources Management

SCS continued to install microcomputers as part of its Field Office Communication and Automation System (FOCAS). More than 2,700





field offices now have FOCAS equipment, and training is being provided to field office personnel. Portable laptop computers, which will allow FOCAS to be used for onsite assistance away from the office, are also being procured. A new version of the FOCAS software CAMPS (Computer Assisted Management and Planning System) will be distributed later this year and will include a module to help with conservation practice design.

Equal Employment Opportunity

Following a precedent set by SCS, USDA established 17 liaison positions on the campuses of the 1890 land-grant institutions and Tuskegee University. In addition to other duties, the liaisons will recruit and counsel minority students on employment opportunities within USDA.

Limited Resource Farmers

SCS joined other USDA agencies in a special initiative to help limited resource farmers. One program is the Alternative Crop Technology (ACT) Program, which is being used to establish demonstration farms in Arkansas to show limited resource farmers how to improve the use of their land and increase its profitability by planting alternative crops.

Workforce 2000

About 500 SCS employees attended a conference on "Toward Workforce 2000" to recommend ways for the agency to adapt to the changing nature of the American work force. Two major trends expected to affect SCS are (1) new jobs will require much higher reading and mathematical skills and (2) the work force will include more women, minorities, and persons over the age of 40.

Conservation Tillage

According to a survey by the Conservation Technology Information Center, farmers used conservation tillage on more than 88 million acres in 1988, an increase of nearly 2 million acres over the previous year. The center reported significant increases in no-till, full-season soybeans (up 17 percent) and all crops under ridge-tillage (up 15 percent).

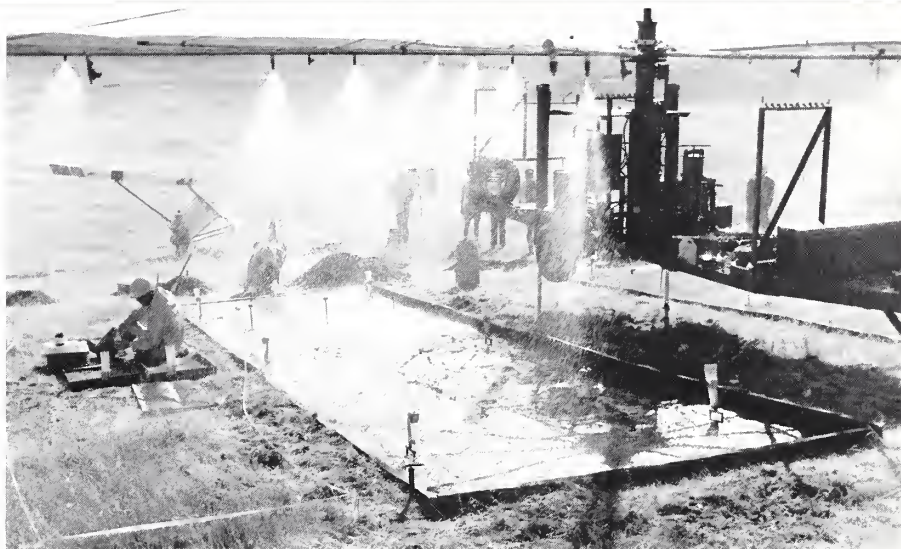
Agricultural Conservation Program

About 100,000 of the farmers and ranchers assisted by SCS during fiscal year 1988 were installing conservation practices partly financed by the Agricultural Conservation Program (ACP) administered by USDA's Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service. About 9,600 operators installed enduring conserva-

tion practices such as terraces and grassed waterways. Through ACP, SCS helped install water conservation practices benefiting 490,000 acres, install terrace systems benefiting 342,000 acres, and apply conservation tillage benefiting 631,000 acres.

Rural Abandoned Mine Program

Through the Rural Abandoned Mine Program Act, SCS provides technical and financial assistance for reclaiming soil and water resources on rural lands adversely affected by coal mining. By the end of this past fiscal year, 781 contracts had been signed obligating \$70.3 million in financial assistance. Work done under these contracts has eliminated 1,375 safety and health hazards, and improved water quality in 58,000 acres of lakes and 456 miles of streams.



Great Plains Conservation Program

Through the Great Plains Conservation Program (GPCP), SCS provides technical and financial assistance to landowners to minimize the hazards of recurring drought and wind and water erosion in the 10 Great Plains States. This past year, 930 farmers and ranchers signed long-term GPCP contracts to apply conservation measures on 2.1 million acres. Work was completed on 1,042 contracts covering 2.3 million acres.

Soil Surveys

SCS established the National Soil Survey Center (NSSC) at Lincoln, Nebr., to streamline soil correlation, expand soil interpretations, improve coordination of data bases, and provide camera-ready copy for publishing soil surveys. New soil surveys were published this past fiscal year for 72 areas. Each survey describes the physical

and chemical characteristics of the soils in the survey area, generally a county. It names and classifies the soils according to a nationwide system and provides information on the potentials and limitations of the soils for various uses. Detailed maps show where each soil is located. SCS mapped 38 million acres during the year, and cooperating agencies mapped an additional 6.5 million acres.

Soil Erosion Research

SCS continues working with USDA's Agricultural Research Service and other Federal agencies in the extensive data collection and testing required for the development of improved universal methods for predicting water erosion, wind erosion, and ephemeral gully erosion. The agency is also assisting in projects measuring the effects of erosion on crop and forage productivity.

Colorado River Salinity Control Program

USDA and the U.S. Department of the Interior continue a joint program to reduce the amount of salt entering the Colorado River from irrigated lands. The application of practices in contracts with landowners under the Colorado River Salinity Control (CRSC) Program has reduced salt entering the Colorado by 37,000 tons per year and reduced ground water recharge to salt-bearing geologic formations by 9,800 acre-feet per year. As of the end of fiscal year 1988, a total of 135 CRSC contracts had been signed obligating nearly \$4.8 million in cost-sharing funds.

Resource Conservation and Development Areas

With assistance from SCS, 1,303 measures were completed during fiscal year 1988 to conserve the natural resources, promote the eco-

nommic development, and improve the quality of life in 189 Resource Conservation and Development (RC&D) Areas. SCS provides USDA leadership for the RC&D Program, but local RC&D councils set their own objectives, goals, and priorities and approve each measure.

Rural Clean Water Program

The Rural Clean Water Program (RCWP) was created in 1980 to test the effectiveness of and apply the conservation practices considered best management practices in solving non-point-source water quality problems. To date, 2,363 contracts costing \$35 million have been approved in the 21 RCWP project areas. Information gained from monitoring the RCWP projects is being used to develop and implement water quality policies.



Small Watersheds

SCS began construction on 15 new small watershed projects in 1988, approved planning for 31 projects, authorized installation of 26 projects, and completed construction on or closed out 27 projects. Small watershed projects combine structural and nonstructural conservation practices to reduce erosion and flood damage and to provide water for agricultural, municipal, and industrial needs in rural areas.

Flood Plains

SCS completed 22 flood plain management studies and 7 reimbursable flood insurance studies in 1988. Local governments use these studies to develop flood plain management programs.

River Basin Studies

SCS leads USDA cooperation with other Federal, State, and local agencies in making investigations and surveys of river basins to guide the

development of the water and related land resources in agricultural, rural, and upstream watersheds. During the past year, 69 river basin studies were in progress in 47 States and 11 studies were completed.

Emergency Assistance

SCS funded approximately \$11.5 million worth of emergency watershed protection work during the past fiscal year to help restore and protect areas damaged by floods, fires, and other natural disasters in 23 States.

Cartography and Geographic Information Systems

SCS has selected the Geographic Resources Analysis and Support System (GRASS) computer software for its basic geographic information system and is developing an interface for using GRASS on field office microcomputers.

Resources Inventory

Data collected for the 1987 National Resources Inventory (NRI) have been computerized and sent to the Iowa State University Statistical Laboratory for further processing. SCS State and area office personnel will be able to obtain computer access and use of the NRI data when released this year.

Engineering

During fiscal year 1988, copies of the Ephemeral Gully Erosion Model (EGEM) computer program were distributed during training sessions at the National Technical Centers. EGEM can be used to estimate rates of erosion and the impacts of conservation practices. SCS has also worked with other agencies to develop 8 of 22 planned self-study training modules on dam safety. Distribution of the comprehensive Field Office Engineering Software

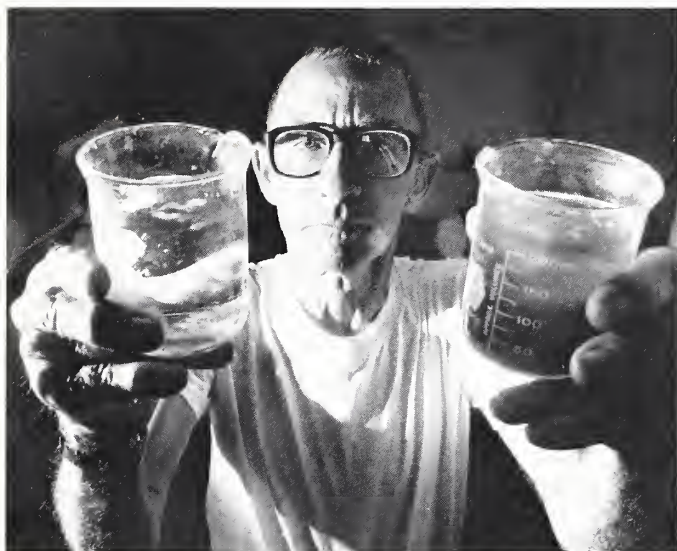
(FOES), which will help field office staffs in planning, designing, and installing conservation practices, is scheduled for 1990.

Rural Development

Rural enterprise teams, made up of representatives from SCS and other USDA agencies, are helping rural communities to assess their development needs and to develop plans for addressing these needs. They also provide technical assistance. This past fiscal year, SCS assisted 19,299 units of government.

Volunteers

More than 8,200 volunteers, of all ages, donated more than 256,000 hours in fiscal year 1988 to help SCS with soil and water conservation. Their time, most of it spent in field tasks, is valued at more than \$1.75 million. SCS is seeking more volunteers.



Ground Water Research

SCS provided support to many Federal and State agencies, universities, and private research consultants for work related to ground water research. Activities include developing and testing ground water flow models and evaluating the effects of agricultural practices on ground water by field sampling and testing.

Water Quality

USDA increased the level of its water conservation and protection activities during 1988. The draft National Conservation Program elevated water quality and quantity to second highest national priority (controlling soil erosion is first) for USDA conservation activities for the next decade. SCS has signed memorandums of understanding to address agricultural activities regarding water quality and quantity with the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) for

nonpoint sources, USDA's Extension Service (ES) for information and education, and ARS and the U.S. Geologic Survey for research. SCS is moving rapidly forward with its Water Quality Action Plan, having conducted three regional water quality workshops jointly with ES to provide technical information and procedural applications of water quality protection techniques for use at the field office level. SCS has also activated a Water Quality Oversight Team to plan and schedule implementation of the 1990 Water Quality Initiative. SCS has now detailed professional personnel to all 10 regional offices and the national headquarters of EPA to coordinate interagency water quality activities. More than 30 SCS personnel have been assigned to assist State agencies with such programs as the National Estuary

Program, the Tennessee Valley Authority's Land and Water 201, the Gulf of Mexico Initiative, the Chesapeake Bay Program, and the Great Lakes Program.

Sociology

During this past fiscal year, SCS sociologists provided support to researchers in completing a study on the information needs of limited-resource farmers and ranchers in the South; teamed with economists and physical scientists in teaching "Erosion and Sediment Control" courses to new employees; and organized a workshop for SCS field office personnel from the West and South so that the needs of Native Americans are better understood by those who provide SCS services. Workshop participants included representatives from organizations of Native Americans, university professors, consultants, and representatives from other Federal agencies.

Range and Pasture

Under contract for SCS, the Texas Agricultural Experiment Station has produced computer programs for CAMPS (the agency's Computer Assisted Management and Planning System) that will enable SCS range conservationists to help land users reach decisions that are ecologically sound and economically feasible. A range data system has been installed at USDA's Computer Center in Fort Collins, Colo., where SCS State staffs will be able to obtain baseline data on rangeland vegetation and soils. SCS plans to locate a range study team at the Midwest National Technical Center in Lincoln, Nebr., to study the impacts of management decisions on grazing lands and to incorporate its findings into the SCS application of the WEPP (Water Erosion Prediction Project) model.



Information and Education

Keeping land users and the general public informed about the conservation provisions of the Food Security Act of 1985 continued to be a high priority during the past fiscal year. Working with local conservation districts and other USDA agencies, SCS employees at all levels assisted the news media, held field days and demonstrations, gave talks and audiovisual presentations to civic groups, exhibited at meetings, and prepared informational material. A special effort was made to dispel misconceptions about conservation compliance and explain the flexibility allowed in alternative conservation systems. Work also began on a national direct mail/media campaign to alert landowners that 1989 is the last year for meeting the deadline for conservation compliance plans.

SCS began a national public service campaign to promote the conservation ethic. Television, radio, and print public service announcements and a color poster have been produced for the campaign's first two phases, "We Owe It To Our Children" and "The Monuments." The material encourages people to call 1-800-THE SOIL for a packet of information on soil and water conservation. Material for the third phase, "They Count On Us," is scheduled for release this fiscal year.

Work began on an educational publication for use by teachers in kindergarten through the second grade, and SCS staff participated in three national conventions for educators. The agency also prepared an exhibit for the Nation's largest indoor flower show in Philadelphia, Pa., and continued its multi-year program, "The World At Your Feet," with the General Federation of Women's Clubs.

Cultural Resources

The pilot national cultural resources training program was completed and reviewed in two States. The training program, which was developed to reduce the costs of meeting the requirements of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, uses a combination of computer instruction, videotapes, and educational games for self- or group-study. SCS received a National Historic Preservation Award this past year for its assistance with riverbank stabilization and revegetation in a project to restore California's Felton Covered Bridge, an 1892 redwood bridge that had been extensively damaged by flooding. In North Dakota, stone materials and other artifacts found at a site in the Halli-day Resource Conservation and Development Area are providing valuable information about a people who lived in the area about 9,000 years ago.

Fish and Wildlife

SCS provides technical assistance to landowners in the maintenance and improvement of fish and wildlife habitats. During the past fiscal year, this assistance—much of it helping to implement the conservation provisions of the Food Security Act of 1985—led to improved wildlife management on more than 1.1 million acres.

Reform '88

SCS this past fiscal year completed and began implementing the recommendations of productivity improvement studies on its snow surveying, information resources management, and engineering operations. These three studies were the last of nine done under the Reform '88 initiative to improve the agency's efficiency, effectiveness, and productivity. Following a review of the SCS National Headquarters and Ohio State Office, USDA officials awarded SCS with its



highest rating for instituting management controls that protect the interest of the Government and guard against fraud, waste, abuse, and mismanagement.

Plant Materials

SCS plant materials centers (PMC's) cooperatively released 13 new conservation plants in 1988. Of 285 conservation plants now released, 200 were produced commercially last year. The PMC's are currently evaluating about 22,500 plants and conducting 2,400 field trials on farms and ranches.

Forestry

SCS provides technical assistance to land users to maintain and improve the forest resource on private lands. During this past year, the agency also made suitability determinations for approximately 1.2 million acres of eroding cropland planted to trees under the Conservation Reserve Program.

International Conservation

This past fiscal year, 203 SCS specialists traveled to 45 countries to provide assistance requested by the Agency for International Development (AID), international organizations, and individual countries. In return, 191 officials, scientists, and technicians from more than 44 foreign countries received personal consultation or tours of conservation practices in the United States.

Snow Surveys

SCS issued more than 3,500 water-supply forecasts during the past fiscal year as part of its Snow Survey Program in the Western States. To monitor the snowpack at higher elevations, the program relies extensively on data transmitted automatically from remote collection stations in its Snow Telemetry System (SNOTEL). As part of a \$6 million, 6-year plan to

upgrade SNOTEL, the agency has put state-of-the-art electronics in 226 of its 590 SNOTEL sites and has scheduled installation in 130 more sites during the current fiscal year.

Strategic Planning and Policy Analysis

In April 1988, SCS released for public review a proposed update of the National Conservation Program designed to provide guidance for all USDA soil and water conservation activities on private and non-Federal lands through 1997. Comments received have been analyzed and incorporated into the final draft, which was sent to Congress this year. The update identifies reducing soil erosion and improving water quality and quantity as the two top priorities. It recommends encouraging and assisting State and local governments to assume additional responsibility for planning and implementing conservation programs.

Economics

Work is underway to incorporate crop budgeting into the Interactive Conservation Evaluation (ICE) program available for field office microcomputers. ICE is designed to help the planner and decisionmaker evaluate systems using both economic and physical criteria, such as net returns and soil loss.

Windbreaks

SCS assisted with planting an estimated 2,800 miles of field windbreaks in 1988 to protect cropland from wind erosion and provide wildlife habitat. The agency also assisted with planting farmstead and feedlot windbreaks to save energy. Nearly 5,200 acres of the cropland placed in the Conservation Reserve Program was planted to field windbreaks.

Moving?

Send present mailing label and new address including zip code to:

U.S. Department of Agriculture
Soil Conservation Service
P.O. Box 2890, Room 6004-S
Washington, D.C. 20013-2890

BULK RATE
POSTAGE AND FEES PAID
USDA-SCS
WASHINGTON DC
PERMIT NO. G-267

Official Business

Penalty for private use, \$300

Campaign Sparks Calls

CALLS TO the 1-800-THE-SOIL number have increased dramatically since the Soil Conservation Service (SCS) began the "We Owe It To Our Children" National Public Service campaign.

According to Kirsten Martin, who coordinates the program for the Soil and Water Conservation Society (SWCS) in Ankeny, Iowa, the toll-free number received less than 100 calls per month before release of the campaign in August 1988. Since then the number of calls has grown to as many as 700 in a month.

SCS is using print ads, radio and television public service announcements, a traveling exhibit and color posters to promote the campaign's theme—a strong conservation ethic for generations yet to come. The material encourages people to call the toll-free number for a packet of information on natural resources, water quality programs, and further information on the TAKE PRIDE IN AMERICA volunteer program.

The 1-800-THE-SOIL line is answered automatically and callers are instructed to leave their name and address so that information can be mailed to them. Those wanting to volunteer are referred to SCS Earth Team coordinators in their States.

"We Owe It To Our Children" and "The Monuments" were the first two phases of a national campaign to increase public awareness of the need to conserve soil, water, and other nonrenewable resources.

The third phase, "They Count On Us," deals with our dependence on the soil and is scheduled for release this year.

Meetings

April	1-6	NACD Spring Board, Washington, D.C.
	2-7	ASPRS-ACSM Convention, Baltimore, Md.
	6-8	86th Conference of the Middle States Council for the Social Studies, Annapolis, Md.
	12-24	6th National RCRA/Superfund (Hazardous Wastes and Materials) Conference and Exhibition, New Orleans, La.
	18-20	1989 Western Snow Conference, Fort Collins, Colo.
	23-25	Non-Point Source Conference, St. Louis, Mo.
	28-May 1	International Association of Fairs and Expositions (IAFE) 21st Annual Spring Conference, Alexandria, Va.
	29-May 3	American Planning Association, Atlanta, Ga.
May	8-12	American Geophysical Union, Baltimore, Md.
	9-12	Riparian Resource Management Symposium, Billings, Mont.
	10-12	Forest Farmers Association, Little Rock, Ark.
	11-19	Hydrologic Sciences Third Scientific Assembly, Baltimore, Md.
	15-17	NASDA Food and Agriculture Exposition, Boston, Mass.
	15-17	National Watershed Conference, Oklahoma City, Okla.
	22-24	National Council of State Garden Clubs, Rochester, N.Y.
June	11-14	Northern Plains Region of the National Association of Conservation Districts, Bozeman, Mont.
	12-15	General Federation of Women's Clubs, Tulsa, Okla.
	17-22	American Water Works Association, Los Angeles, Calif.
	24-28	National Environmental Health Association, Seattle, Wash.
	25-29	American Seed Trade Association, Washington, D.C.
	26-30	APCA '89 (Association Dedicated to Air Pollution Control and Hazardous Waste Management), Anaheim, Calif.